**Between Module Course Reading**

**MODULE 5**

***Reading 2: Cultural influences on Critical thinking and problem solving***

***(Douglas F Brenner & Sandra Parks)***

**Consider the concept of fair-mindness in critical thinking as explored in Reading 2, and answer the following questions:**

*Do the questions in* ***MELTABRC*** *raise issues about integrity?*

Yes because it assumes the following:

* That assumptions are made by authors
* Authors have bias
* Credibility needs to be questioned
* Persuasive techniques and language need to be taken into account
* That there are consequences to what is put down on paper if to be believed without questioning
* MELTABRC fits more with **Individualist cultures** – critique of individual, speaking mind freely, demanding clarity, interested in promoting own beliefs etc.
* Lacks understanding of **Collectivist culture** perspective - independence with others, shared voice, listen and infer a speakers intention, creation of harmony etc.
* Still has a use in learning, just a limited focus (culturally specific) and should be used only with the knowledge that there are other cultural perspectives that must be taken into account.

*What is the relationship between critical thinking and integrity?*

* Need to be true to your own thinking – don’t accept without understanding
* Critical thinking needs to include moral thinking – in order to become rational and fair minded.
* Make your own valued judgments – be open minded and see from all perspectives
* To think without bias....
* Cultural perspectives regarding honesty, adherence to moral and ethical principles have great influence on critical thinking.